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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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10/810,032

03/26/2004

Steven K. Knapp

X-1421 US

8424

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7590

06/07/2006

XILINX, INC
ATTN: LEGAL DEPARTMENT
2100 LOGIC DR
SAN JOSE, CA 95124

EXAMINER

MOAZZAMI, NASSER G

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2187

DATE MAILED: 06/07/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/810,032

Applicant(s)

KNAPP, STEVEN K.

Examiner

Nasser G. Moazzami

Art Unit

2187

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 26 March 2004.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-19 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-9, 12 and 17-19 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 10-11, and 13-16 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____
- ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

2. Claims 1-3 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Jigour (US Patent No. 5,991,194).

As per claims 1-3, Jigour discloses a system comprising: a serial flash memory; and a programmable logic device having an interface coupled to the serial flash memory, wherein the interface is configured to identify the serial flash memory, wherein the serial flash memory operates in accordance with the serial peripheral interface (SPI) protocol, and wherein the serial flash memory is coupled to the interface by a standard SPI four-wire interface **[the flash memory array 124 is fully accessible through four-pin serial peripheral interface (column 3, lines 59-61)]**.

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3. Claims 1-3 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by DeCaro (US Patent No. 7,032,039).

As per claims 1-3, DeCaro discloses a system comprising: a serial flash memory; and a programmable logic device having an interface coupled to the serial flash memory, wherein the interface is configured to identify the serial flash memory, wherein the serial flash memory operates in accordance with the serial peripheral interface (SPI) protocol, and wherein the serial flash memory is coupled to the interface by a standard SPI four-wire interface **[serial non-volatile memory compatible with the serial peripheral interface (SPI) protocol (column 2, line 36-39); to identify a serial NV memory device, a microprocessor sends a command to the device requesting information to identify the device (column 2, line 45-54); other wire arrangements can be found (column 1, lines 20-23)]**.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

4. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

5. Claims 4-9, 11, and 17-19 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Jigour or DeCaro in view of a well known feature in which official notice is taken.

As per claims 4-8, Jigour or DeCaro discloses the claimed invention including an address register to provide a start address to the serial flash memory, wherein the start address identifies an initial address to be accessed in the serial flash memory which could be a predetermined address and is modifiable [**inherently both references should have the above said features (for example see Jigour Read Device Information instruction on column 4, lines 45-47, and column 6, lines 25-28)**], and updating a configuration stored in the flash memory [**DeCaro discloses configuration data and a way to be able to have interface to different types of serial memories and identifying these different serial memories and Jigour discloses sending a command requesting device information**], but fails to specifically disclose an address register to provide a start address to the serial flash memory, wherein the start address identifies an initial address to be accessed in the serial flash memory which could be a predetermined address and is modifiable. However, having a start address register to provide a start address to the flash memory is well known, thereby official notice is taken (as an evidence to this well known subject matter, examiner refer applicant to the US Patent No. 6510090 (column 1, lines 33-37), 6549482 (column 9, lines 31-51), and 6829727 (column 7, lines 50-60)).

As per claims 9, 11, and 17-19, claims 9, 11, and 17-19 encompass the same scope of the invention as those of claims 4-8. Therefore, claims 9, 11, and 17-19 are rejected for the same reasons as stated above with respect to claims 4-8.

Allowable Subject Matter

6. Claims 10-11, and 13-16 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Conclusion

7. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. See attached PTO-892.

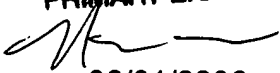
8. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Nasser G. Moazzami whose telephone number is (571) 272-4195. The examiner can normally be reached on 7:00AM-5:30PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Donald Sparks can be reached on (571) 272-4201. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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9. Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

NASSER MOAZZAM¹
PRIMARY EXAMINER



06/01/2006